

blance to existing species ; every pore and cell might be represented fraught with life ; here the agile inmates, fully expanded, with their little arms, or tentacula, in rapid motion ; there retreating within their recesses, and devouring the infinitesimal living atoms that constitute their food ; or rapidly shrinking to the bottom of their cells upon the approach of danger ; even their varied colours might be introduced, and thus a beautiful and highly interesting picture be presented to the eye, as now to the imagination.

Although, for convenience, I have selected the above examples principally from the cretaceous strata, the collector must not suppose that other formations are not equally prolific in these remains. The Coralrag of the Oolite, many beds of the Mountain limestone, and those of Dudley and Wenlock of the Silurian System, contain myriads of minute poly-pidoms associated with the coralline masses, of which those strata are so largely constituted. Exquisite figures of the Silurian corals are given, *Murch. Sil. Syst.* pl. 15, 16, and described by Mr. Lonsdale with characteristic accuracy. A slab of the Dudley limestone often has the entire surface studded with corals, shells, and crustaceous animals, of many species and genera, lying in bold relief, and in the most beautiful state of preservation.

VERTICILLIPORA, (*Lign.* 55.). — Cells poriform, arranged in meshes on the surface of convex